

Flatpicking Guitar Magazine Free Lesson - January 2019

“Precious Memories”

By J. F. B. Wright

Arranged by Mickey Abraham

Hello and welcome once again to Flatpicking Guitar Magazine’s free lesson portion of our monthly newsletter. This month I am excited to share with you a simple arrangement of the beautiful gospel song “Precious Memories.”

“Precious Memories” has been recorded by everyone from Emmylou Harris to Alan Jackson. In addition to having wonderful lyrics “Precious Memories” also makes for a beautiful flatpicking tune. I chose this song because it has showed up in my life a lot recently. Two of my students brought it in to learn and then I heard a country band playing it the very next weekend. It seems “Precious Memories” is purposely popping up and it is meant to be. I can’t get the song out of my head!

For this lesson I have arranged the melody in C position with a capo at fret four. This will put you into the key of E where Emmylou sings it. If you listen to Emmylou’s rendition you might notice how she hangs on certain chords for effect. While I think this really adds to her version I have chosen to play it straight. In fact, even when the vocalist incorporates the extended measures, the breaks are played over the straight forward forward form.

If played correctly “Precious Memories” will make your audience cry. I hope you enjoy working out this simple arrangement and adding to your list of flatpicking tunes. As always should you have any comments or questions on this lesson just drop me a line at michabraham@comcast.net

Precious Memories

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1 **C** **F**

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Measure 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time, whole rest. Measure 2: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Measure 4: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3. Bass clef: Measure 1: whole rest. Measure 2: 0, 0. Measure 3: S, 2/5, 5. Measure 4: 5, 2.

5 **C** **G**

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Measure 5: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 6: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Measure 7: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3. Measure 8: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note A3, quarter note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3. Bass clef: Measure 5: 2, 0. Measure 6: S, 3/5, 3, 5, 3. Measure 7: 5, 3, 0. Measure 8: 3.

9 **C** **F**

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Measure 9: Treble clef, 4/4 time, whole rest. Measure 10: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 11: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Measure 12: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3. Bass clef: Measure 9: whole rest. Measure 10: 0, 0. Measure 11: S, 2/5, 5. Measure 12: 5, 2.

13 **C** **G** **C**

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Measure 13: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 14: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Measure 15: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3. Measure 16: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note A3, quarter note G3, quarter note F3, quarter note E3. Bass clef: Measure 13: 2, 0. Measure 14: 0, 1. Measure 15: 3, 1, 0, 3. Measure 16: 1.

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Musical notation for measures 17-20. Measure 17: Treble clef, 4/4 time, whole rest. Measure 18: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note G4, quarter note A4, quarter note B4, quarter note C5. Measure 19: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note B4, quarter note A4, quarter note G4, quarter note F4. Measure 20: Treble clef, 4/4 time, quarter note E4, quarter note D4, quarter note C4, quarter note B3. Bass clef: Measure 17: whole rest. Measure 18: 3, 5. Measure 19: 3, 5. Measure 20: 5, 5.

Precious Memories (con't)

21 **F** **C**

P **H**

25 **F**

S

29 **C** **G** **C**

S